

CITY OF UNION
Special Business Meeting
December 7, 2020

Regular Business

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM on December 7, 2020 by Mayor Larry Solomon via Zoom Teleconference.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Solomon led all attendees in the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

A quorum was present and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Jeremy Ramage (Joined the call at 6:15 p.m.), Commissioner John Mefford, Commissioner Eric Dulaney, Commissioner Bryan Miller and Mayor Larry Solomon.

Also present:

City Attorney-Greg Voss, Esq.; City Administrator-David Plummer; City Communications and Operations Director-Melissa Hinkle, City Clerk/Treasurer Christy Everman and City Engineer Barry Burke. Commissioner-Elect Brian Garner was also in attendance

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Solomon asked for approval of the November 2, 17 and 30th Meeting Minutes. Mayor Solomon asked that the Nov. 30 minutes be changed to reflect a 6 p.m. start time for the December 7 meeting. Commissioner Mefford moved to approve the minutes with this change. Commissioner Dulaney seconded that motion.

Motion approved 4-0

Financial Reports

Commissioner Miller presented the monthly financial report and bills to pay. He noted that the second round of small business grants are to be approved tonight and additional CARES act funding expenses had been paid, but that the reimbursement had been submitted to the Department of Local Government and was in process, with a reimbursement payment expected shortly. He noted that 93% of 2020 Property Tax bills had been collected, and 94% of Tangible Tax bills had also been paid, which is a very high number for this time of year for tangible payments.

Commissioner Mefford moved to accept the monthly profit and loss statement and the bills to be paid. Commissioner Dulaney seconded the motion. **Motion approved, 4-0.**

Mayor Comments

Mayor Solomon had no updates this month.

Visitors and Guests Wishing to Speak

There were no comments from the public at this meeting.

Economic Development/Boone County Planning Update

Mr. Harper updated on the Planning Commission. There are two public hearings on the Grammas development upcoming: a committee hearing and then a full BCPC vote set on the project for December 6. He did note that he felt this was a good use of the lot to meet UTC guidelines, though a few exceptions were in the proposal, to make best use of the lot layout and access to US42. There will also be a public hearing on a development at the Dr. Wright property with a committee meeting on that development in December. There have been several exceptions to the code asked for in this development, which will include 47 dwelling units off of Callie Way. The BCPC will vote on the Wright proposal in January.

Commissioner Ramage joined the call at this point (6:15) and advised that there were no other EDC updates to provide, and there is no December meeting of the group, due to the holidays and work conflicts.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Dulaney noted that the 2020 Street Repairs Program has been fully completed and all bills are paid, or will be paid shortly, with the retainage cleared to be submitted to the contractors following the final inspections by Engineer Burke. The PWC is working on the 2021 Capital Improvements Plan and are reviewing all of the city streets. They will bring forward final recommendations in the spring for improvements next year.

With the work completed on Mt. Zion, the 62 LED Lights along the new roadway will soon become the responsibility of the city. Engineer Burke has been in contact with several companies regarding providing a maintenance contract for these lights on behalf of the city, and PWC will be moving forward with obtaining quotes and bring final cost and retainer recommendations to the commission in the spring.

Dulaney updated on the issue of parking along the easternmost portion of Braxton Drive, located near an apartment complex in the City of Florence. Residents of the apartment complex are parking along Braxton and restricting access to the area for residents and creating issues for mail delivery. Dulaney noted that city staff surveyed residents, presenting options to them for the issue. Option one is to allow four-hour parking from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.; to issue a parking permit for the area; or to do nothing. Attorney Voss advised that under KRS, we can not issue spot parking permits, and they would have to be city-wide, so that option is not very feasible for the city. Commissioner Ramage asked what would the enforcement be. Both Commissioner Dulaney and Administrator Plummer advised that the Boone County Sheriff's Office considered the enforcement of restricted parking times to be a low priority enforcement issue, and would require the residents to call and complain with each violation for enforcement.

Engineer Burke presented the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program, which must be filed annually with SD1 for compliance with state and national regulations. There were no questions regarding the report.

Commissioner Mefford moved to accept the SWPPP and submit it to SD1 for approval. Commissioner Dulaney seconded the motion. **Motion approved, 5-0.**

Communications/Office Operations Report

Director Hinkle updated on the 2020 Light Up Union Contest, which launched the week of Thanksgiving. So far there have been nine entries from the city, with numerous others from areas outside of the city limits. She is hoping for between 20-25 entrants for the first year of the contest. Mayor Solomon asked if the contest could become an annual event, and she reported that there was no reason to not make it a yearly contest for the city. She will be providing prizes in the form of gift cards from local restaurants in Union, which will also provide a needed boost to those businesses in the City of Union.

City Administrator Report

Administrator Plummer updated on the Coronavirus Relief Fund, noting there were about \$7500 remaining in the initial allotment. He is looking into spending the remaining amount for technology upgrades in the city building meeting room, or other technology needs for the city.

Administrator Plummer presented eight applicants for a total of \$77,897 for the second round of Small Business Grants. With the approval of these grants, more than \$110,000 will have been given to small businesses in the City of Union to help them stay open during the Coronavirus Pandemic. He noted that the Mayor of Walton has copied the City of Union program and that they are currently doing grants in the City of Walton based on our program requirements. Commissioner Dulaney moved to approve the second round of Small Business Grants in the City of Union. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. **Motion Approved 5-0.**

Discussion of Changing Regular Meeting Times for 2021.

Mayor Solomon requested consideration of moving the meeting time to 6 p.m. in January 2021. Attorney Voss advised that the meeting dates and times must be set by ordinance to change all times, but that individual meeting times can be adjusted. Due to the Holidays, Administrator Plummer requested that the January meeting be moved back one week, to allow staff adequate time to prepare the packets and reports required for the meeting. The group agreed to move the January meeting to January 11 at 6 p.m. and to advise Attorney Voss to prepare the documentation to move the meeting to a 6 p.m. start for the future.

City Attorney Report

Legislation: Ordinances/Municipal Orders/ Resolutions (prepared by Attorney Greg D. Voss)

Resolutions.

none

Municipal Orders

MUNICIPAL ORDER 2020-19 –A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING JAMES LILES TO SERVE ON THE UNION/WALTON JOINT CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Ramage and seconded by Commissioner Mefford. **Motion approved 5-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2020-20—A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING STEVE HARPER TO SERVE ON THE BOONE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Miller. **Motion approved 5-0.**

MUNICIPAL ORDER NO. 2020-21--A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPOINTING JAMES COLLETT TO SERVE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Miller and seconded by Commissioner Mefford. **Motion approved 5-0.**

Ordinances

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-04--AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY AMENDING CHAPTER 72A REGARDING THE REGULATION OF PARKING ON THE CITY'S PUBLIC STREETS WITHIN THE CITY OF UNION, KENTUCKY—*First Reading*

Mayor Larry K. Solomon then performed the Oath of Offices, witnessed by electronic notary Director Hinkle to Mr. Collett; Mr. Harper; Mr. Liles; Commissioner Dulaney; Commissioner Garner; Commissioner Mefford and Commissioner Ramage.

Announcements

Mayor Solomon and members of the Commission and City Staff took a few moments to recognize outgoing Commissioner Bryan Miller, who served 10 years as commissioner (five terms) for the Citizens of Union. Mr. Miller was lauded for his integrity, dedication and service to the community, and applauded for his attention to the fiscal health of the city, which has operated without a tax increase during his entire tenure on the commission. Mr. Miller thanked the membership for the fellowship and dedication of everyone at the City of Union and noted that he had thoroughly enjoyed his time of service. He left the meeting following this, at 7:01 p.m.

Executive Session

none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mefford and seconded by Commissioner Ramage. **Motion approved 4-0.** Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Larry Solomon, Mayor

Christy Everman, City Clerk